



## Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 217**

February Session, 2016

Substitute Senate Bill No. 287

*Senate, March 24, 2016*

The Committee on Veterans' Affairs reported through SEN. FLEXER of the 29th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

**AN ACT CONCERNING TUITION AND FEE WAIVERS FOR  
VETERANS AND MEMBERS OF THE CONNECTICUT NATIONAL  
GUARD AT PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsections (d) to (g), inclusive, of section 10a-77 of the  
2 general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
3 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

4 (d) Said board of trustees shall waive the payment of tuition at any  
5 of the regional community-technical colleges (1) for any dependent  
6 child of a person whom the armed forces of the United States has  
7 declared to be missing in action or to have been a prisoner of war  
8 while serving in such armed forces after January 1, 1960, which child  
9 has been accepted for admission to such institution and is a resident of  
10 Connecticut at the time such child is accepted for admission to such  
11 institution, (2) subject to the provisions of subsection (e) of this section,  
12 for any veteran who performed service in time of war, as defined in  
13 subsection (a) of section 27-103, [except that for purposes of this

14 subsection, "service in time of war" shall not include time spent in  
15 attendance at a military service academy,] who has been accepted for  
16 admission to such institution and is domiciled in this state at the time  
17 such veteran is accepted for admission to such institution, except that  
18 for purposes of this subsection, "service in time of war" shall not  
19 include time spent in attendance at a military service academy, and  
20 except that said board of trustees shall also waive for any such veteran  
21 the payment of any extension fees for educational extension programs  
22 and summer school sessions, as described in section 10a-26, (3) for any  
23 resident of Connecticut sixty-two years of age or older, provided, at  
24 the end of the regular registration period, there are enrolled in the  
25 course a sufficient number of students other than those persons  
26 eligible for waivers pursuant to this subdivision to offer the course in  
27 which such person intends to enroll and there is space available in  
28 such course after accommodating all such students, (4) for any student  
29 attending the Connecticut State Police Academy who is enrolled in a  
30 law enforcement program at said academy offered in coordination  
31 with a regional community-technical college which accredits courses  
32 taken in such program, (5) for any active member of the Connecticut  
33 Army or Air National Guard who (A) has been certified by the  
34 Adjutant General or such Adjutant General's designee as a member in  
35 good standing of the guard, and (B) is enrolled or accepted for  
36 admission to such institution on a full-time or part-time basis in an  
37 undergraduate degree-granting program, except that said board of  
38 trustees shall also waive for any such member the payment of any  
39 extension fees for educational extension programs and summer school  
40 sessions, as described in section 10a-26, (6) for any dependent child of  
41 a (A) police officer, as defined in section 7-294a, or supernumerary or  
42 auxiliary police officer, (B) firefighter, as defined in section 7-323j, or  
43 member of a volunteer fire company, (C) municipal employee, or (D)  
44 state employee, as defined in section 5-154, killed in the line of duty,  
45 (7) for any resident of the state who is a dependent child or surviving  
46 spouse of a specified terrorist victim who was a resident of this state,  
47 (8) for any dependent child of a resident of the state who was killed in  
48 a multivehicle crash at or near the intersection of Routes 44 and 10 and

49 Nod Road in Avon on July 29, 2005, and (9) for any resident of the state  
50 who is a dependent child or surviving spouse of a person who was  
51 killed in action while performing active military duty with the armed  
52 forces of the United States on or after September 11, 2001, and who  
53 was a resident of this state. If any person who receives a tuition waiver  
54 in accordance with the provisions of this subsection also receives  
55 educational reimbursement from an employer, such waiver shall be  
56 reduced by the amount of such educational reimbursement. Veterans  
57 described in subdivision (2) of this subsection and members of the  
58 National Guard described in subdivision (5) of this subsection shall be  
59 given the same status as students not receiving tuition waivers in  
60 registering for courses at regional community-technical colleges.  
61 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10a-30, as used in this  
62 subsection, "domiciled in this state" includes domicile for less than one  
63 year.

64 (e) (1) If any veteran described in subsection (d) of this section has  
65 applied for federal educational assistance under the Post-9/11  
66 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008, the board of trustees shall  
67 waive the payment of tuition and extension fees at any of the regional  
68 community-technical colleges for such veteran in accordance with  
69 subdivision (2) of this subsection. If any such veteran certifies to said  
70 board of trustees that such veteran's application for such federal  
71 educational assistance has been denied or withdrawn, said board of  
72 trustees shall waive the payment of tuition and extension fees in  
73 accordance with subsection (d) of this section.

74 (2) (A) For purposes of this subdivision, "veteran tuition benefit"  
75 means the portion of federal educational assistance under the Post-  
76 9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008 to be paid to a  
77 regional community-technical college on behalf of a veteran that  
78 represents payment for tuition and extension fees. Such portion shall  
79 be calculated by multiplying (i) the total amount of such federal  
80 educational assistance to be paid to a regional community-technical  
81 college on behalf of such veteran by (ii) an amount obtained by  
82 dividing (I) the actual tuition and extension fees charged by such

83 college to such veteran by (II) the sum of the actual tuition, extension  
84 fees and other fees charged by such college to such veteran.

85 (B) Said board of trustees shall waive the payment of tuition and  
86 extension fees in excess of the veteran tuition benefit at any of the  
87 regional community-technical colleges for such veteran.

88 (f) Said board of trustees shall set aside from its anticipated regional  
89 community-technical college tuition revenue, an amount not less than  
90 that required by said board's tuition policy. Such funds shall be used to  
91 provide tuition waivers, tuition remissions, grants for educational  
92 expenses and student employment for residents enrolled in regional  
93 community-technical colleges as full or part-time matriculated  
94 students in a degree-granting program, or enrolled in a precollege  
95 remedial program, who demonstrate substantial financial need. Said  
96 board may also set aside from its anticipated tuition revenue an  
97 additional amount equal to one per cent of said tuition revenue for  
98 financial assistance for students who would not otherwise be eligible  
99 for financial assistance but who do have a financial need as determined  
100 by the college in accordance with this subsection. In determining such  
101 financial need, the college shall exclude the value of equity in the  
102 principal residence of the student's parents or legal guardians, or in the  
103 student's principal residence if the student is not considered to be a  
104 dependent of his parents or legal guardians and shall assess the  
105 earnings of a dependent student at the rate of thirty per cent.

106 (g) The Regional Community-Technical Colleges Operating Fund  
107 shall be reimbursed for the amount by which the tuition and extension  
108 fee waivers granted under subsection (d) of this section exceed five per  
109 cent of tuition and extension fee revenue through an annual state  
110 appropriation. The board of trustees shall request such an  
111 appropriation and said appropriation shall be based upon an estimate  
112 of tuition and extension fee revenue loss using tuition and extension  
113 fee rates in effect for the fiscal year in which such appropriation will  
114 apply.

115 Sec. 2. Subsections (d) to (g), inclusive, of section 10a-99 of the

116 general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
117 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

118 (d) Said board of trustees shall waive the payment of tuition fees at  
119 the Connecticut State University System (1) for any dependent child of  
120 a person whom the armed forces of the United States has declared to  
121 be missing in action or to have been a prisoner of war while serving in  
122 such armed forces after January 1, 1960, which child has been accepted  
123 for admission to such institution and is a resident of Connecticut at the  
124 time such child is accepted for admission to such institution, (2) subject  
125 to the provisions of subsection (e) of this section, for any veteran who  
126 performed service in time of war, as defined in subsection (a) of section  
127 27-103, [except that for purposes of this subsection, "service in time of  
128 war" shall not include time spent in attendance at a military service  
129 academy,] who has been accepted for admission to such institution  
130 and is domiciled in this state at the time such veteran is accepted for  
131 admission to such institution, except that for purposes of this  
132 subsection, "service in time of war" shall not include time spent in  
133 attendance at a military service academy, and except that said board of  
134 trustees shall also waive for any such veteran the payment of any  
135 extension fees for educational extension programs and summer school  
136 sessions, as described in section 10a-26, (3) for any resident of  
137 Connecticut sixty-two years of age or older who has been accepted for  
138 admission to such institution, provided (A) such person is enrolled in a  
139 degree-granting program, or (B) at the end of the regular registration  
140 period, there are enrolled in the course a sufficient number of students  
141 other than those persons eligible for waivers pursuant to this  
142 subdivision to offer the course in which such person intends to enroll  
143 and there is space available in such course after accommodating all  
144 such students, (4) for any student attending the Connecticut Police  
145 Academy who is enrolled in a law enforcement program at said  
146 academy offered in coordination with the university which accredits  
147 courses taken in such program, (5) for any active member of the  
148 Connecticut Army or Air National Guard who (A) has been certified  
149 by the Adjutant General or such Adjutant General's designee as a  
150 member in good standing of the guard, and (B) is enrolled or accepted

151 for admission to such institution on a full-time or part-time basis in an  
152 undergraduate or graduate degree-granting program, except that said  
153 board of trustees shall also waive for any such member the payment of  
154 any extension fees for educational extension programs and summer  
155 school sessions, as described in section 10a-26, (6) for any dependent  
156 child of a (A) police officer, as defined in section 7-294a, or  
157 supernumerary or auxiliary police officer, (B) firefighter, as defined in  
158 section 7-323j, or member of a volunteer fire company, (C) municipal  
159 employee, or (D) state employee, as defined in section 5-154, killed in  
160 the line of duty, (7) for any resident of this state who is a dependent  
161 child or surviving spouse of a specified terrorist victim who was a  
162 resident of the state, (8) for any dependent child of a resident of the  
163 state who was killed in a multivehicle crash at or near the intersection  
164 of Routes 44 and 10 and Nod Road in Avon on July 29, 2005, and (9)  
165 for any resident of the state who is a dependent child or surviving  
166 spouse of a person who was killed in action while performing active  
167 military duty with the armed forces of the United States on or after  
168 September 11, 2001, and who was a resident of this state. If any person  
169 who receives a tuition waiver in accordance with the provisions of this  
170 subsection also receives educational reimbursement from an employer,  
171 such waiver shall be reduced by the amount of such educational  
172 reimbursement. Veterans described in subdivision (2) of this  
173 subsection and members of the National Guard described in  
174 subdivision (5) of this subsection shall be given the same status as  
175 students not receiving tuition waivers in registering for courses at  
176 Connecticut state universities. Notwithstanding the provisions of  
177 section 10a-30, as used in this subsection, "domiciled in this state"  
178 includes domicile for less than one year.

179 (e) (1) If any veteran described in subsection (d) of this section has  
180 applied for federal educational assistance under the Post-9/11  
181 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008, the board of trustees shall  
182 waive the payment of tuition and extension fees at the Connecticut  
183 State University System for such veteran in accordance with  
184 subdivision (2) of this subsection. If any such veteran certifies to said  
185 board of trustees that such veteran's application for such federal

186 educational assistance has been denied or withdrawn, said board of  
187 trustees shall waive the payment of tuition and extension fees in  
188 accordance with subsection (d) of this section.

189 (2) (A) For purposes of this subdivision, "veteran tuition benefit"  
190 means the portion of federal educational assistance under the Post-  
191 9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008 to be paid to the  
192 Connecticut State University System on behalf of a veteran that  
193 represents payment for tuition and extension fees. Such portion shall  
194 be calculated by multiplying (i) the total amount of such federal  
195 educational assistance to be paid to the Connecticut State University  
196 System on behalf of such veteran by (ii) an amount obtained by  
197 dividing (I) the actual tuition and extension fees charged by the  
198 Connecticut State University System to such veteran by (II) the sum of  
199 the actual tuition, extension fees and other fees charged by the  
200 Connecticut State University System to such veteran.

201 (B) Said board of trustees shall waive the payment of tuition and  
202 extension fees in excess of the veteran tuition benefit at the Connecticut  
203 State University System for such veteran.

204 (f) Said board of trustees shall set aside from its anticipated tuition  
205 revenue, an amount not less than that required by the board of  
206 governors' tuition policy established under subdivision (3) of  
207 subsection (a) of section 10a-6. Such funds shall be used to provide  
208 tuition waivers, tuition remissions, grants for educational expenses  
209 and student employment for any undergraduate or graduate student  
210 who is enrolled as a full or part-time matriculated student in a degree-  
211 granting program, or enrolled in a precollege remedial program, and  
212 who demonstrates substantial financial need. Said board may also set  
213 aside from its anticipated tuition revenue an additional amount equal  
214 to one per cent of said tuition revenue for financial assistance for  
215 students who would not otherwise be eligible for financial assistance  
216 but who do have a financial need as determined by the university in  
217 accordance with this subsection. In determining such financial need,  
218 the university shall exclude the value of equity in the principal

219 residence of the student's parents or legal guardians, or in the student's  
220 principal residence if the student is not considered to be a dependent  
221 of his parents or legal guardians and shall assess the earnings of a  
222 dependent student at the rate of thirty per cent.

223 (g) The Connecticut State University System Operating Fund shall  
224 be reimbursed for the amount by which the tuition and extension fee  
225 waivers granted under subsection (d) of this section exceed two and  
226 one-half per cent of tuition and extension fee revenue through an  
227 annual state appropriation. The board of trustees shall request such an  
228 appropriation and said appropriation shall be based upon an estimate  
229 of tuition and extension fee revenue loss using tuition and extension  
230 fee rates in effect for the fiscal year in which such appropriation will  
231 apply.

232 Sec. 3. Subsections (e) to (h), inclusive, of section 10a-105 of the 2016  
233 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is  
234 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

235 (e) Said board of trustees shall waive the payment of tuition fees at  
236 The University of Connecticut (1) for any dependent child of a person  
237 whom the armed forces of the United States has declared to be missing  
238 in action or to have been a prisoner of war while serving in such armed  
239 forces after January 1, 1960, which child has been accepted for  
240 admission to The University of Connecticut and is a resident of  
241 Connecticut at the time such child is accepted for admission to said  
242 institution, (2) subject to the provisions of subsection (f) of this section,  
243 for any veteran who performed service in time of war, as defined in  
244 subsection (a) of section 27-103, [except that for purposes of this  
245 subsection, "service in time of war" shall not include time spent in  
246 attendance at a military service academy,] who has been accepted for  
247 admission to said institution and is domiciled in this state at the time  
248 such veteran is accepted for admission to said institution, except that  
249 for purposes of this subsection, "service in time of war" shall not  
250 include time spent in attendance at a military service academy, and  
251 except that said board of trustees shall also waive for any such veteran



252 the payment of any extension fees for educational extension programs  
253 and summer school sessions, as described in section 10a-26, (3) for any  
254 resident of Connecticut sixty-two years of age or older who has been  
255 accepted for admission to said institution, provided (A) such person is  
256 enrolled in a degree-granting program, or (B) at the end of the regular  
257 registration period, there are enrolled in the course a sufficient number  
258 of students other than those persons eligible for waivers pursuant to  
259 this subdivision to offer the course in which such person intends to  
260 enroll and there is space available in such course after accommodating  
261 all such students, (4) for any active member of the Connecticut Army  
262 or Air National Guard who (A) has been certified by the Adjutant  
263 General or such Adjutant General's designee as a member in good  
264 standing of the guard, and (B) is enrolled or accepted for admission to  
265 said institution on a full-time or part-time basis in an undergraduate or  
266 graduate degree-granting program, except that said board of trustees  
267 shall also waive for any such member the payment of any extension  
268 fees for educational extension programs and summer school sessions,  
269 as described in section 10a-26, (5) for any dependent child of a (A)  
270 police officer, as defined in section 7-294a, or supernumerary or  
271 auxiliary police officer, (B) firefighter, as defined in section 7-323j, or  
272 member of a volunteer fire company, (C) municipal employee, or (D)  
273 state employee, as defined in section 5-154, killed in the line of duty,  
274 (6) for any resident of the state who is the dependent child or surviving  
275 spouse of a specified terrorist victim who was a resident of the state,  
276 (7) for any dependent child of a resident of the state who was killed in  
277 a multivehicle crash at or near the intersection of Routes 44 and 10 and  
278 Nod Road in Avon on July 29, 2005, and (8) for any resident of the state  
279 who is a dependent child or surviving spouse of a person who was  
280 killed in action while performing active military duty with the armed  
281 forces of the United States on or after September 11, 2001, and who  
282 was a resident of this state. If any person who receives a tuition waiver  
283 in accordance with the provisions of this subsection also receives  
284 educational reimbursement from an employer, such waiver shall be  
285 reduced by the amount of such educational reimbursement. Veterans  
286 described in subdivision (2) of this subsection and members of the

287 National Guard described in subdivision (4) of this subsection shall be  
288 given the same status as students not receiving tuition waivers in  
289 registering for courses at The University of Connecticut.  
290 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10a-30, as used in this  
291 subsection, "domiciled in this state" includes domicile for less than one  
292 year.

293 (f) (1) If any veteran described in subsection (e) of this section has  
294 applied for federal educational assistance under the Post-9/11  
295 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008, the board of trustees shall  
296 waive the payment of tuition and extension fees at The University of  
297 Connecticut for such veteran in accordance with subdivision (2) of this  
298 subsection. If any such veteran certifies to said board of trustees that  
299 such veteran's application for such federal educational assistance has  
300 been denied or withdrawn, said board of trustees shall waive the  
301 payment of tuition and extension fees in accordance with subsection  
302 (d) of this section.

303 (2) (A) For purposes of this subdivision, "veteran tuition benefit"  
304 means the portion of federal educational assistance under the Post-  
305 9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008 to be paid to The  
306 University of Connecticut on behalf of a veteran that represents  
307 payment for tuition and extension fees. Such portion shall be  
308 calculated by multiplying (i) the total amount of such federal  
309 educational assistance to be paid to The University of Connecticut on  
310 behalf of such veteran by (ii) an amount obtained by dividing (I) the  
311 actual tuition and extension fees charged by The University of  
312 Connecticut to such veteran by (II) the sum of the actual tuition,  
313 extension fees and other fees charged by The University of Connecticut  
314 to such veteran.

315 (B) Said board of trustees shall waive the payment of tuition and  
316 extension fees in excess of the veteran tuition benefit at The University  
317 of Connecticut for such veteran.

318 (g) Said board of trustees shall set aside from its anticipated tuition  
319 revenue, an amount not less than that required by the board of

governors' tuition policy established under subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of section 10a-6. Such funds shall be used to provide tuition waivers, tuition remissions, grants for educational expenses and student employment for any undergraduate, graduate or professional student who is enrolled as a full or part-time matriculated student in a degree-granting program, or enrolled in a precollege remedial program, and who demonstrates substantial financial need. Said board may also set aside from its anticipated tuition revenue an additional amount equal to one per cent of said tuition revenue for financial assistance for students who would not otherwise be eligible for financial assistance but who do have a financial need as determined by the university in accordance with this subsection. In determining such financial need, the university shall exclude the value of equity in the principal residence of the student's parents or legal guardians, or in the student's principal residence if the student is not considered to be a dependent of his parents or legal guardians and shall assess the earnings of a dependent student at the rate of thirty per cent.

(h) The University of Connecticut Operating Fund shall be reimbursed for the amount by which tuition and extension fee waivers granted under subsection (e) of this section exceed two and one-half per cent of tuition and extension fee revenue through an annual state appropriation. The board of trustees shall request such an appropriation and said appropriation shall be based upon an estimate of tuition and extension fee revenue loss using tuition and extension fee rates in effect for the fiscal year in which such appropriation will apply.

Sec. 4. Section 10a-143 of the general statutes is amended by adding subsections (h) and (i) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

(NEW) (h) The Board of Regents for Higher Education shall waive the payment of course enrollment fees at Charter Oak State College (1) subject to the provisions of subsection (i) of this section, for any veteran who performed service in time of war, as defined in subsection (a) of section 27-103, who has been accepted for admission to Charter

353 Oak State College and is domiciled in this state at the time such  
354 veteran is accepted for admission to said institution, except that for  
355 purposes of this subsection, "service in time of war" shall not include  
356 time spent in attendance at a military service academy, and (2) for any  
357 active member of the Connecticut Army or Air National Guard who  
358 (A) has been certified by the Adjutant General or the Adjutant  
359 General's designee as a member in good standing of the guard, and (B)  
360 is enrolled or accepted for admission to Charter Oak State College on a  
361 full-time or part-time basis in a degree-granting program. If any  
362 person who receives a course enrollment fee waiver in accordance with  
363 the provisions of this subsection also receives educational  
364 reimbursement from an employer, such waiver shall be reduced by the  
365 amount of such educational reimbursement. Veterans and members of  
366 the Connecticut National Guard described in this subsection shall be  
367 given the same status as students not receiving course enrollment fee  
368 waivers in registering for courses at Charter Oak State College.  
369 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10a-30, as used in this  
370 subsection, "domiciled in this state" includes domiciled for less than  
371 one year.

372 (NEW) (i) (1) If any veteran described in subsection (h) of this  
373 section has applied for federal educational assistance under the Post-  
374 9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008, the Board of  
375 Regents for Higher Education shall waive the payment of course  
376 enrollment fees at Charter Oak State College for such veteran in  
377 accordance with subdivision (2) of this subsection. If any such veteran  
378 certifies to said board that such veteran's application for such federal  
379 educational assistance has been denied or withdrawn, said board shall  
380 waive the payment of course enrollment fees in accordance with  
381 subsection (h) of this section.

382 (2) (A) For purposes of this subdivision, "veteran tuition benefit"  
383 means the portion of federal educational assistance under the Post-  
384 9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008 to be paid to Charter  
385 Oak State College on behalf of a veteran that represents payment for  
386 course enrollment fees. Such portion shall be calculated by multiplying

387 (i) the total amount of federal educational assistance to be paid to  
 388 Charter Oak State College on behalf of such veteran by (ii) an amount  
 389 obtained by dividing (I) the actual course enrollment fees charged by  
 390 Charter Oak State College to such veteran by (II) the sum of the actual  
 391 course enrollment fees and other fees charged by Charter Oak State  
 392 College to such veteran.

393 (B) The Board of Regents for Higher Education shall waive the  
 394 payment of course enrollment fees in excess of the veteran tuition  
 395 benefit at Charter Oak State College for such veteran.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2016	10a-77(d) to (g)
Sec. 2	July 1, 2016	10a-99(d) to (g)
Sec. 3	July 1, 2016	10a-105(e) to (h)
Sec. 4	July 1, 2016	10a-143

**Statement of Legislative Commissioners:**

In Section 1(g), "and extension fee" was inserted after "five per cent of tuition" for consistency; and in Section 2(g), "and extension fee" was inserted after "one-half per cent of tuition" for consistency, "and extension fee" was deleted before "through an annual" for clarity and "and extension fee revenue loss" was substituted for "and extension fees revenue loss" for accuracy and consistency.

**VA**            *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

### ***OFA Fiscal Note***

#### ***State Impact:***

<b>Agency Affected</b>	<b>Fund-Effect</b>	<b>FY 17 \$</b>	<b>FY 18 \$</b>
Higher Education Constituent Units	Tuition Fund - Revenue Loss	15.7 million	15.7 million

***Municipal Impact:*** None

#### ***Explanation***

The bill results in a revenue loss to the constituent units of higher education of \$15.7 million in FY 17 and FY 18. The revenue loss is due to expanding the higher education tuition waiver program for eligible veterans and active National Guard members to include payments of any extension fees for educational extension programs and summer school sessions and establishing a course enrollment fee waiver for eligible veterans, National Guard members, and their spouses or children who attend Charter Oak State College.

The revenue loss by unit would be as follows: Connecticut State University System - \$11.8 million (fees at the CSU system are 48% of total tuition and fees), Community-Technical College System - \$3.5 million, the University of Connecticut - \$0.3 million and Charter Oak State College - \$0.1 million.

#### ***The Out Years***

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of eligible students and the fee rate.

**OLR Bill Analysis****sSB 287*****AN ACT CONCERNING TUITION AND FEE WAIVERS FOR VETERANS AND MEMBERS OF THE CONNECTICUT NATIONAL GUARD AT PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill expands the higher education tuition waiver program for eligible veterans and active National Guard members to include payments of any extension fees for educational extension programs and summer school sessions. It does this by requiring the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges, Connecticut State University System (CSUS), and UConn to waive such fees.

The bill also establishes a course enrollment fee waiver for eligible veterans and National Guard members who attend Charter Oak State College, with generally the same eligibility requirements as the tuition waiver program. It requires a special calculation for veterans who apply for certain federal educational assistance. (Charter Oak State College charges class enrollment fees instead of tuition.)

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2016

**WAIVER ELIGIBILITY*****Veterans***

As under current law, these institutions must waive extension program and summer school session fees for veterans who (1) live in Connecticut when they are accepted for admission to the institution and (2) served at least 90 days during a statutorily defined period of war or for the duration of a war that lasted less than 90 days, unless they were separated earlier by a Veterans' Administration-rated service-connected disability and does not include any time spent attending a military service academy.

Table 1 shows post-1940 war periods for purposes of veterans' benefits, including tuition waivers. "Service in time of war" also includes service during the period beginning on the date of any future declaration of war by Congress and ending on the date prescribed by presidential proclamation or concurrent resolution by Congress.

**Table 1: Service in a Time of War**

<b>Operation</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Service Condition</b>
World War II	12/07/1941-12/31/1946	Active service during the war
Korean War	06/27/1950-01/31/1955	Active service during the war
Lebanon Conflict	07/01/1958-11/01/1958 or 09/29/1982-03/30/1984	Combat or combat-support role in Lebanon
Vietnam Era	02/28/1961-07/01/1975	Active service during the war
Grenada invasion	10/25/1983-12/15/1983	Combat or combat-support role in Grenada required
Operation Earnest Will (escort of Kuwaiti tankers flying U.S. flag in Persian Gulf)	07/24/1987-08/01/1990	Combat or combat-support role required in the operation
Panama invasion	12/20/1989-01/31/1990	Combat or combat-support role required in the invasion
Persian Gulf War	08/02/1990 until a date prescribed by the President or law	Active-service anywhere during the war (not necessarily in the Persian Gulf or in a combat role)

Additionally, World War II veterans of certain allied armed forces are also eligible if they (1) were U.S. citizens at enlistment and received an honorable discharge or (2) have been U.S. citizens for at least 10 years and participated in armed conflict with an enemy of the United States.

### **Active National Guard Members**

As under current law, these higher education institutions must waive the extension and summer school fees for active National Guard members who (1) have been certified by the adjutant general, or his designee, as a member in good standing of the guard and (2) are enrolled or accepted for admission to such institution on a full- or part-time basis in a degree-granting program (including graduate programs



in the case of UConn and CSUS).

### **CHARTER OAK ENROLLMENT FEE WAIVER**

The bill requires the Board of Regents for Higher Education (BOR) to waive course enrollment fees at Charter Oak State College for any eligible veteran (see above) and veterans who applied for certain federal educational assistance.

It also requires BOR to (1) reduce the waiver amount by the amount of any employer's educational reimbursement and (2) give the veteran or National Guard member the same status as students who do not receive the waiver when registering for courses.

### ***Federal Educational Assistance***

Under the bill, if an eligible veteran has applied for federal educational assistance under the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008, BOR must waive the payment of the course enrollment fees according to a formula the bill prescribes. If the veteran certifies to BOR that his or her application has been denied or withdrawn, the board must waive the enrollment fees according to the bill (see above).

If the veteran applied for such federal funds, his or her portion must be calculated by multiplying

1. the total amount of federal assistance paid to Charter Oak on behalf of the veteran by
2. an amount obtained by dividing (a) the actual course enrollment fees charged by (b) the sum of the actual course enrollment fees and other fees charged by Charter Oak to such veterans.

BOR must waive the payment of course enrollment fees in excess of the federal educational assistance at Charter Oak for the veteran.

### **BACKGROUND**

#### ***Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008***

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This act expands the educational benefits for veterans who served after September 11, 2001. Eligible veterans may be eligible for payments to cover tuition and fees, housing, books and supplies, tutorial and relocation assistance, and testing and certification fees.

***Related Bill***

sHB 5471, favorably reported by the Veterans' Affairs Committee, (1) expands the tuition waiver program to allow the spouse, son, or daughter of an eligible veteran or National Guard member to receive unused tuition or course enrollment fee waivers and (2) establishes a course enrollment fee waiver for eligible veterans and National Guard members who attend Charter Oak State College.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Veterans' Affairs Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea    15    Nay   0    (03/08/2016)